

Claims

What is claimed is:

1. A method for restricting access of a user to a restricted item, said method comprising the steps of:
 - providing a token to said user using a first communication channel;
 - instructing said user to enter said provided token using a cellular telephone that has been previously associated with said user; and
 - providing access to said user if said entered token matches said provided token and is received from a cellular telephone having a serial number previously associated with said user.
2. The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of receiving a password from said user before providing said token.
3. The method of claim 1, wherein said token is a pseudo-random number.
4. The method of claim 1, wherein said instructing step further comprises the step of instructing said user to dial an access control administrator to enter said token.
5. The method of claim 4, further comprising the step of providing said token to said access control administrator.
6. The method of claim 4, further comprising the step of providing a telephone number associated with said associated cellular telephone to said access control administrator.

7. The method of claim 4, further comprising the step of providing an amount for approval to said access control administrator.

8. The method of claim 4, wherein said access control administrator compares said token received from said user to said provided token.

9. The method of claim 4, wherein said access control administrator ensures that said token is received from a cellular telephone having a serial number previously associated with said user.

10. The method of claim 1, wherein said instructing step further comprises the step of establishing a connection over a cellular network to said cellular telephone associated with said user and instructing said user to enter said token.

11. A method for restricting access of a user to a restricted item, said method comprising the steps of:

providing a token to an access control administrator;

providing said token to said user using a first communication channel;

instructing said user to dial a telephone number associated with said access control administrator using a cellular telephone that has been previously associated with said user to enter said provided token; and

providing access to said user if said entered token matches said provided token and is received from a cellular telephone having a serial number previously associated with said user.

12. The method of claim 11, wherein said access control administrator compares said entered token to said provided token.

13. The method of claim 11, further comprising the step of providing a cellular telephone number that has been previously associated with said user to said access control administrator and wherein said access control administrator determines a cellular telephone number associated with a serial number of a cellular telephone from which said token was received and compares said provided cellular telephone number with said determined cellular telephone number.

14. The method of claim 11, further comprising the step of receiving an indication from said access control administrator indicating that said entered token matches said provided token and was received from a cellular telephone having a serial number previously associated with said user.

15. The method of claim 11, further comprising the step of receiving a password from said user before providing said token.

16. The method of claim 11, wherein said token is a pseudo-random number.

17. A method for restricting access of a user to a restricted item, said method comprising the steps of:

- providing a token to said user using a first communication channel;
- establishing a connection over a cellular network to a cellular telephone associated with said user;
- instructing said user to enter said provided token using said cellular connection; and

providing access to said user if said entered token matches said provided token and is received from a cellular telephone having a serial number previously associated with said user.

18. The method of claim 17, further comprising the step of receiving a password from said user before providing said token.

19. The method of claim 17, wherein said token is a pseudo-random number.

20. A system for restricting access of a user to a restricted item, comprising:
a memory that stores computer-readable code; and
a processor operatively coupled to said memory, said processor configured to implement said computer-readable code, said computer-readable code configured to:
provide a token to said user using a first communication channel;
instruct said user to enter said provided token using a cellular telephone that has been previously associated with said user; and
provide access to said user if said entered token matches said provided token and is received from a cellular telephone having a serial number previously associated with said user.

21. A system for restricting access of a user to a restricted item, comprising:
a memory that stores computer-readable code; and
a processor operatively coupled to said memory, said processor configured to implement said computer-readable code, said computer-readable code configured to:
provide a token to an access control administrator;
provide said token to said user using a first communication channel;

instruct said user to dial a telephone number associated with said access control administrator using a cellular telephone that has been previously associated with said user to enter said provided token; and

provide access to said user if said entered token matches said provided token and is received from a cellular telephone having a serial number previously associated with said user.

22. A system for restricting access of a user to a restricted item, comprising:
a memory that stores computer-readable code; and
a processor operatively coupled to said memory, said processor configured to implement said computer-readable code, said computer-readable code configured to:
provide a token to said user using a first communication channel;
establish a connection over a cellular network to a cellular telephone associated with said user;
instruct said user to enter said provided token using said cellular connection; and
provide access to said user if said entered token matches said provided token and is received from a cellular telephone having a serial number previously associated with said user.

23. A system for restricting access of a user to a restricted item, comprising:
means for providing a token to said user using a first communication channel;
means for instructing said user to enter said provided token using a cellular telephone that has been previously associated with said user; and
means for providing access to said user if said entered token matches said provided token and is received from a cellular telephone having a serial number previously associated with said user.

24. An article of manufacture for restricting access of a user to a restricted item, comprising:

a computer readable medium having computer readable code means embodied thereon, said computer readable program code means comprising:

a step to provide a token to said user using a first communication channel;

a step to instruct said user to enter said provided token using a cellular telephone that has been previously associated with said user; and

a step to provide access to said user if said entered token matches said provided token and is received from a cellular telephone having a serial number previously associated with said user.

25. An article of manufacture for restricting access of a user to a restricted item, comprising:

a computer readable medium having computer readable code means embodied thereon, said computer readable program code means comprising:

a step to provide a token to an access control administrator;

a step to provide said token to said user using a first communication channel;

a step to instruct said user to dial a telephone number associated with said access control administrator using a cellular telephone that has been previously associated with said user to enter said provided token; and

a step to provide access to said user if said entered token matches said provided token and is received from a cellular telephone having a serial number previously associated with said user.

26. An article of manufacture for restricting access of a user to a restricted item, comprising:

a computer readable medium having computer readable code means embodied thereon, said computer readable program code means comprising:

a step to provide a token to said user using a first communication channel;

a step to establish a connection over a cellular network to a cellular telephone associated with said user;

a step to instruct said user to enter said provided token using said cellular connection; and

a step to provide access to said user if said entered token matches said provided token and is received from a cellular telephone having a serial number previously associated with said user.